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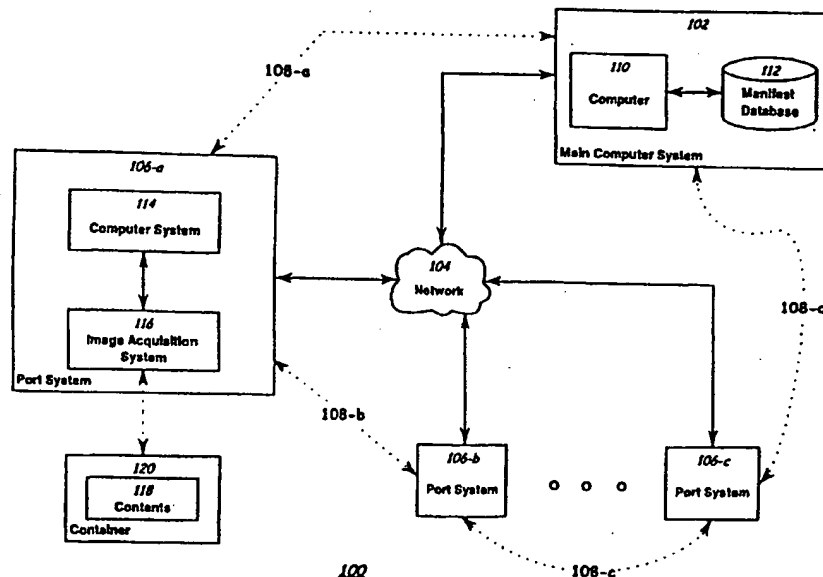
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(54) Title: CONTAINER CONTENTS VERIFICATION



(57) Abstract

A method and system for verifying the contents of a cargo container includes acquiring at least one image of the cargo container and of the contents of the cargo container, the image being one of a backscatter X-ray image of the cargo container, and a transmission X-ray image of the cargo container. The image is stored with a manifest associated with the cargo container. The manifest is sent to another location, and, at the other location, selectively, a second image of the contents of the cargo container is acquired; and compared with the image stored with the manifest associated with the cargo container.

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CONTAINER CONTENTS VERIFICATION

Background Of The Invention.

1. Field of the Invention

5 This invention relates to container contents verification. More particularly, this invention relates to methods, systems and devices for verification the contents of containers, preferably large shipping containers.

2. Background

Assuring a safe and efficient flow of cargo and people through the ports
10 and container facilities of the world is critical to a vibrant global economy. The economy and well-being of all nations requires a safe and effective transportation and shipping system. The global economy necessitates that the ports of a nation be capable of handling import and export trade in a manner that assures a nation's citizens and the foreign trading and business community that the risk experienced
15 will be at acceptable and predictable levels.

Marine transportation is an integral component of almost every nation's transportation system. Marine transportation's efficient operation is critical to a nation's ability to engage in global trade. For example, in the United States, no matter how modern and efficient the highway, rail and air systems are, alone they
20 cannot serve the needs of the global economy. Further, international trade is expected to triple by the year 2020, making the need for efficient operation of marine transportation even more critical.